

NEW YORK TIMES

26 February, 1985

## *Trial Starts for a Norwegian Diplomat Accused of Spying for Soviet*

OSLO, Feb. 25 (AP) — A Government prosecutor charged today that a diplomat was photographed during an orgy at a party in Moscow and was blackmailed into spying for the Soviet Union.

Chief Prosecutor Lars Qvigstad outlined the state's case against the former diplomat, Arne Treholt, at the opening of Norway's most sensational spy trial.

The prosecutor accused Mr. Treholt of providing information about North Atlantic Treaty Organization nuclear weapons and their possible use in wartime, of revealing military arrangements in NATO's northern frontier with the Soviet Union and of giving Moscow inside reports on the thoughts of top Western leaders.

Prosecutor Qvigstad said many aspects of the case were too secret for open court, but he described secret meetings in Vienna, Helsinki, New York and Oslo and messages left in automobile exhaust pipes and toilets and on tables in a United Nations library. He said Mr. Treholt also provided information to Iraq.

### **Charges Are Denied**

Chief Judge Astri Sverdrup read 15 pages of accusations. Mr. Treholt, 42 years old, once considered a star of Norway's Foreign Ministry, stood calmly in court and denied the charges.

"I never revealed anything referring to the security of the country in the points referred to in the indictment," he said. "I cannot therefore plead guilty to the eight points of the indictment."

A panel of seven judges is hearing the case, and Mr. Treholt faces a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison.

Prosecutor Qvigstad charged that Mr. Treholt had 6,000 pages of 832 secret documents in his apartment when he was arrested at the Oslo airport on Jan. 20, 1984. It was charged that Mr. Treholt was carrying 66 NATO documents for delivery to Soviet agents in Vienna.

The prosecutor said a Soviet K.G.B. agent, Gennady Titov, appeared to have begun cultivating contacts with Mr. Treholt by giving him gifts of Cognac and vodka. In 1975, when Mr. Treholt was serving on a delegation to Moscow, the Prosecutor said, he was invited to a party at a private home that turned into an orgy.

### **Agent Said to Ask for Secrets**

Prosecutor Qvigstad said that "a short time later" Mr. Titov presented Mr. Treholt with photographs from the party and asked him about his access to secret material. The prosecutor gave no details about the photographs.

In the years after that, the prosecutor charged, Mr. Treholt met Mr. Titov in Oslo restaurants to give Mr. Titov secret material to copy. He said the documents were always returned four hours later, outside a small store in suburban Oslo.

When Mr. Treholt later became a counselor to Norway's delegation to the United Nations, the prosecutor said, he was assigned to another Soviet contact, Vladimir Zhishin, whom he met in New York restaurants and the delegates' lounge at the United Nations. He left

messages in the lounge, in restrooms and in the United Nations library, Prosecutor Qvigstad said.

By that time, the prosecutor said, Norway had asked the Federal Bureau of Investigation to watch Mr. Treholt.

### **Appointed to Defense College**

Despite the surveillance, when Mr. Treholt returned to Norway he was appointed to attend the National Defense College in 1982-83.

Prosecutor Qvigstad portrayed Mr. Treholt's admission to the defense college as a mistake by Foreign Ministry administrators, who did not know Mr. Treholt was under suspicion.

Among the information Mr. Treholt is accused of providing were confidential accounts of meetings between Norwegian officials and Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, Chancellor Helmut Schmidt of West Germany, Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau of Canada and the British Foreign Secretary, Lord Carrington.

The prosecutor said Mr. Treholt opened a Swiss bank account in 1982 with \$32,000 that he said he made from the sale of a Mercedes sedan he bought in New York.

### **Iraqi Said to Pay Him**

A year later, the account took in an additional \$20,000, which the prosecutor said Mr. Treholt received from an Iraqi intelligence agent, Rahdi Mohammed.

It was charged that Mr. Treholt, during his espionage work, passed along information about Western views of the Middle East, about Israeli and Syrian military matters and about the posi-

tions of Soviet forces near the Middle East.

Mr. Treholt was accused of providing oil industry intelligence obtained at the defense college, although it was not specified to whom he gave it. He was also said to have passed along confidential Western predictions of oil production, American views of internal Iranian and Saudi Arabian politics and prospects of American military intervention in the Middle East.

Prosecutor Qvigstad said Mr. Treholt received about \$13,000 from Mr. Titov, largely to pay for travel expenses.